

# CHINA



# MAIL.

Established February, 1845.

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

Vol. XXXIII. No. 4288. 號九廿月三年七十七百八千一英

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1877.

日五十月二年丑丁

Price, \$24 PER ANNUM.

## AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON:—F. ALGAR, 8, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street. GEORGE STREET, 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOSCH, Ludgate Circus, E. C. BATES, HENDY & Co., 4, Old Jewry, E. C. SAMUEL DRAGON & Co., 160 & 164, Leadenhall Street.

NEW YORK:—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GORDON & GOSCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally:—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

CHINA:—SWANSON, QUELON & CAMPBELL, Amoy. WILSON, NICHOLS & Co., Foochow. HENDER & Co., Shanghai. LAY, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WALSH, Manila. C. HENDERSON & Co., Macao. L. A. DA GRAGA.

## Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars. RESERVE FUND, 500,000 Dollars.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—H. HOPKINS, Esq. Deputy Chairman—F. D. SASSOON, Esq. E. R. BRILLIANT, Esq. WILHELM REINER, Esq. W. H. FORBES, Esq. ED. TOBIN, Esq. BOU. W. KESWICK, Esq. A. McIVER, Esq.

## CHIEF MANAGERS.

Hongkong, T. THOMAS JACKSON, Esq. Manager. Shanghai, E. W. CAMERON, Esq. LONDON BANKERS:—London and County Bank.

## HONGKONG.

## INTEREST ALLOWED

ON Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits:— For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum. " 6 " 4 per cent. " " 12 " 5 per cent. " "

## LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted. Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan. T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation, No. 1, Queen's Road East. Hongkong, March 29, 1877.

## Notices of Firms.

## NOTICE.

MR. DALTON SAYLE was admitted a Partner in our Firm on the 31st of July, 1876.

SAYLE & Co.

Hongkong, March 18, 1877. ap16

## NOTICE.

MR. EDWARD BURNIE will Conduct the BUSINESS of my OFFICE, during my Temporary Absence from the Colony.

R. H. CAIRNS.

Surveyor to Local Offices, and Lloyd's Register of Shipping. 2, Club Chambers, Hongkong, March 17, 1877. sc18

## NOTICE.

WE have been appointed AGENTS for the AMERICAN SHIPMASTERS' ASSOCIATION.

ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.

Hongkong, February 2, 1877. sp2

## VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

ON and after the 16th day of November, 1876, and until further notice, the BUSINESS of the above-named DISPENSARY will be carried on by the Under-signed.

WM. CRUIKSHANK,

Manager. Hongkong, November 21, 1876.

## Auctions.

## GENERAL WEEKLY SALE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. will sell by Public Auction, in their Sale Room, Praya Central, on

## SATURDAY.

the 31st March, 1877, at Noon.—Crockery and Glass Ware, Toilet Basins, Water Jugs, Bowls, Chambers, Pickle Jars, Decanters, Tumblers, Flower Stands, &c. Silk Umbrellas, Letter Paper and Envelopes, Foolscap Paper, Cologne Water.

Also,

7 cases Soda Crystals. 5 boxes Californian Potatoes, 26 " do. Apples. 4 " do. Dried Fruits.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars, weighed at 7.1.7. The Lot or Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer.

Hongkong, March 26, 1877. ms31

## Auctions.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

LAMBERT, ATKINSON & Co. have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

## THURSDAY.

the 12th April, 1877, at 2 o'clock p.m.,—ON THE SPOT

(Unless previously disposed of by Private Sale).

That Piece or Parcel of GROUND, situate in Queen's Road East, Registered in Land Office as Inland Lot No. 54, comprising 10,000 square feet, measuring from North to South 100 feet, and from East to West 100 feet, with a substantial Brick Dwelling House and Out-houses built thereon, known as "Carlton House." Annual Crown Rent, \$131.40.

And,

That Piece or Parcel of GROUND, situate in Queen's Road East, Registered in Land Office as Inland Lot No. 768, comprising 6,000 square feet, measuring from North to South 150 feet, and from East to West 40 feet, with a substantial Brick Godown built thereon.

Also,

That Piece or Unbuilt Levelled GROUND, attached to the above Lot, and Registered in Land Office as same Inland Lot No. 768, comprising 6,000 square feet, measuring from North to South 150 feet, and from East to West 40 feet. Annual Crown Rent, \$185.08, for Inland Lot No. 768.

TERMS.—One-half of the purchase money to be paid on the fall of the hammer, and the remainder on completion of the Deed of Transfer. The Buildings will be at purchaser's risk after the fall of the hammer.

Hongkong, March 13, 1877. ap12

## To Let.

NO. 3, PRINCE TERRACE, ELGIN STREET, with Immediate Possession.

Apply to

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, February 7, 1877.

## TO LET.

HOUSE No. 7, Cairne Road, lately occupied by Mr. PARKER. House No. 10, Albany Road, at present occupied by the Rev. R. H. KIDD. Bismar Villa, Pok-fu-lum, Furnished. DAVID SASSOON, SOUS & Co. Hongkong, February 15, 1877.

## TO LET.

THE Upper Portion of Nos. 42 and 44, Queen's Road. The Dwelling House No. 2, Gough Street. Apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, November 17, 1876.

## TO BE LET.

THE PREMISES No. 39, Queen's Road, at present in the occupation of the BORNEO COMPANY.

TURNER & Co.

Hongkong, February 6, 1877.

## Intimations.

HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

COMMENCING on FRIDAY Next, the 16th Instant, the Steamer *POWAN* will Run as a Night Boat between HONGKONG and CANTON, leaving HONGKONG on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 8.30 p.m., and CANTON on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays, at 5.00 p.m.

By Order,

P. A. DA COSTA,

Secretary. Hongkong, March 14, 1877.

## WANTED.

SOME Active Intelligent Men as TURN-KEYS in VICTORIA GAOL. Salary Commencing at \$40 per Month, with Quarters and Uniform. Applications to be made to the Acting Superintendent of the Gaol.

VICTORIA GAOL,

Hongkong, March 23, 1877. mc30

ERNEST WASSILL & Co.,

PHOTOGRAPHERS.

I HAVE This Day Established myself as PHOTOGRAPHER at the Corner of Wyndham and Wellington Streets, at the Building lately occupied by the HONGKONG PHOTOGRAPHIC Co., under the above Style.

ERNEST WASSILL.

Hongkong, March 8, 1877. ap1

## Intimations.

## MacEWEN, FRICKEL & Co.

JUST LANDED EX S. S. "BELGIO."

COMB HONEY, CRUET HONEY,

CALIFORNIA BUTTER, in 2 lb.

Glass Jars, very fine,

BUTTER in Kegs,

CHEESE,

HAMS,

SMOKED SALMON,

SALMON, in 1 & 2 lb. Tins,

Libby's CORNED BEEF, in 2

& 4 lb. Tins,

Libby's CORNED TONGUES,

Also Ex "Fiking."

Royal Glen Dee WHISKY, OATMEAL,

Perry & Co.'s Superior BURMAH CIGARS.

Hongkong, March 29, 1877. ap5

## THE MEDICAL HALL.

37, Queen's Road, Hongkong. ESTABLISHED 1853.

TH. KOFFER, Proprietor. Hongkong, April 28, 1876. ap28

## HONGKONG.

## Chs. J. GAUPP & Co.,

WATCHMAKERS & JEWELLERS, 38, Queen's Road,

NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHRONOMETERS,

&c., &c., &c., Carefully Repaired, Cleaned and accurately

rated under guarantee. All Repairs in the above line done at

reasonable rates and with despatch. Hongkong, May 1, 1876. ti.

## NOTICE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. have been Appointed SOLE AGENTS for China and Japan, for JOSEPH STARKEY, LONDON, Manufacturer of GOLD and SILVER LACES, Embroidery, &c., and Military and Naval Appointments of every Description.

A Stock of these Goods will be kept on hand, for the Regiments stationed here, as well as for the ENGLISH and AMERICAN NAVIES.

Hongkong, March 14, 1877. ap14

## NOTICE.

NEITHER Captain FORBES nor the AGENTS or OWNERS of the American Barque "GARIBALDI" will be RESPONSIBLE for any DEBTS contracted by the Crew.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Agents. Hongkong, February 28, 1877.

## NOTICE.

LONDON & ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT INSURANCE Co.

THE BUSINESS of this COMPANY has This Day been Transferred to THE MARINE INSURANCE Co., of 20, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON.

By Order of the Proprietors, WILLIAM HUNT, Secretary.

187, Leadenhall Street, LONDON, 1st January, 1877.

THE MARINE INSURANCE Co. 20, Old Broad Street, LONDON, 1st January, 1877.

ESTABLISHED 1836. CAPITAL, £1,000,000 STERLING. RESERVE FUND, £340,000.

WITH Reference to the foregoing Advertisement THE MARINE INSURANCE Co. has This Day taken over the Business of the LONDON & ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT Co., and has Appointed Mr. A. McIVER as its AGENT in Hongkong.

By Order of the Board of Directors, ROBERT J. LODGE, Manager.

THE Undersigned is prepared to Accept Risks and issue Policies on behalf of the MARINE INSURANCE Co. by any First Class Steamer.

A. McIVER, Agent of the Marine Insurance Co. of London.

Hongkong, February 25, 1877. ap17

Mixed, Onion, Piccalilli and Chow Chow

PICKLES,

TOMATO CATSUP,

BROWN,

PIG'S FEET,

Small HOMINY,

Large HOMINY,

Yellow CORN MEAL,

Buck Wheat FLOUR,

Baker's BITTERS,

Golden Gate Baker's EXTRA

FLOUR.

Also Ex "Fiking."

GOD FISH, in 4 & 7 lb. Tins,

RED HERRINGS.

ap5

## AFONG,

PHOTOGRAPHER, by appointment, to

H. E. SIR ARTHUR KENNEDY, GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG;

and to H. I. H. THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS OF RUSSIA,

Wyndham Street, formerly ATHLETIC CLUB.

HAS on hand the Largest and Best collection of Views of China, Photographic Albums, Frames, Cases, &c., of assorted sizes. Ex S. S. Radnorshire a supply of very handsome Easel Albums of Russia and Velvet Covers, assorted sizes. Illuminated Albums for Portraits. Tobacco Pouches, in Shape of Skulls, Rats, &c., and a nice choice of Gift Mountings for Frames, &c.

Hongkong, March 28, 1877.

GREAT NORTHERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

TO Expedite the Delivery of Telegrams, this Company's London Station has been connected by Pneumatic Tubes with the following Post Office Telegraph Stations:—

Lombury—Founder's Court. No. 27, Cornhill.

No. 53, Threadneedle Street. The Baltic.

Gresham House. No. 150, Leadenhall Street.

No. 42, Fenchurch Street. No. 76, Lower Thames Street.

Mark Lane. No. 3, Eastcheap.

No. 101, Cannon Street. St. Martin's Old General Post Office.

New General Post Office, Ludgate Circus.

Temple Bar. West Strand.

Instead of going through the General Post Office, Messages will be distributed at once by the Company's own Messengers, unless they can be tubed more quickly through the above-mentioned Stations.

GEORGE J. HELLAND, General Agent.

Shanghai, March 16, 1877. mc30

## Now Ready.

## "THE CHINA REVIEW,"

No. 4, Vol. V.

Annual Subscription, Six Dollars and a Half.

CONTENTS.

Essays on the Chinese Language, (Continued from page 152.)

Deer-Stalking in China. Chinese Dentistry.

Chinese Intercourse with the Countries of Central and Western Asia during the Fifteenth Century, Part II. (Continued from page 182.)

A Legend of the Peking Bell-Tower. A Chinese Hornbook.

The Law of Inheritance. A Chinese Dictionary in the Cantonese Dialect.

Short Notices of New Books and Literary Intelligence. Notes and Queries.

A Chinese Dictionary in the Cantonese Dialect. "Watching Spirits."

Chinese Folk-lore. Yin and Yang, according to Aristotle. Pledge English.

Goethe's "Werther" in China. Chinese Music. White Ants.

Books Wanted, Exchanges, &c. China Mail Office, Hongkong, March 29, 1877.

## Intimations.

G. O. ROGERS, DENTAL SURGEON, No. 7, ARBUTHNOT ROAD.

Requests to inform his Friends that he intends being ABSENT from HONGKONG for Six or Eight Weeks, leaving early in APRIL.

Hongkong, March 12, 1877.

K WONG HING CHEUNG & Co., COAL MERCHANTS,

Have always on hand for Sale every description of COAL at Moderate Prices.

Mr. ANYON has been appointed Manager, and all Orders addressed to him at 37, Praya, or to Mr. FAR JACK, at 30, Hing Lung Street, will receive immediate attention.

Hongkong, March 19, 1877. ap19

## For Sale.

## SAYLE & Co.

GREAT CLEARANCE SALE.

IN Order to make Room for SPRING GOODS.

On and after MONDAY, February 5th, We shall offer the Remainder of Our WINTER STOCK at an immense reduction.

DRESS GOODS at 16 cents per yard. DRESS GOODS at 20 cents per yard.

DRESS GOODS at 25 cents per yard. DRESS GOODS at 30 cents per yard.

DRESS GOODS at 35 cents per yard. FANCY SILKS! We offer about 5,000

yards at 35 cents per yard, (these are more or less soiled); original price \$1.50 and \$2.00 per yard.

JAPANESE SILKS! Reduced to 40 cents per yard.

WOOL SHAWLS, MANTLES and JACKETS, Marked very Cheap.

LADIES' BOYS' and GIRLS' FELT HATS, at Half Price.

FANCY WOOL GOODS, at less than Half Price.

LADIES' and CHILDREN'S WOOL and MERINO HOSE, Greatly reduced.

100 dozen CHILDREN'S WOOL and MERINO SOCKS, all Sizes, at less than Half Price.

Several thousand Yards of VARIOUS REMNANTS, comprising: FLANNELS, CALICOS, PRINTS, MUSLINS, STUFF GOODS and Other Useful GOODS, are

Marked at Prices, which must effect immediate Sale.

In order to prevent disappointment, We beg to inform Our Customers and the Public that this Extraordinary, and Unprecedented Sale must close on February 28th.

## SAYLE & Co.,

## VICTORIA EXCHANGE,

Queen's Road & Stanley



## General Memoranda

DAY, April 1:—

Daylight.—*Namoa* leaves for Coar.  
MONDAY, April 2:—  
Noon.—*Esmeralda* leaves for M.  
Goods per *Khiva* undelivered.  
date subject to rent.

**TUESDAY, April 8:—**  
**11 a.m.—Sitting in Admiralty.**  
**3 p.m.—Occidental & Oriental S. S. Co.'s**  
**Steamer leaves for Yokohama and San**  
**Francisco.**  
**4 p.m.—Sale of Race Horses, at Messrs.**  
**Lane, Crawford & Co.'s Sales Rooms,**  
**Praya.**  
**9 p.m.—Meeting of Zetland Lodge.**  
**Goods per Glenartney, undelivered after**  
**this date subject to rent.**

**THURSDAY, April 5:—**  
**Noon.**—French Mall leaves for Ports of  
 Call and Europe.

**THURSDAY, April 12:—**  
**2 p.m.**—Sale of Ground, at Queen's  
 Road East.

**SATURDAY, April 14:—**  
**3 p.m.**—American Mall leaves for Yoko-  
 hama and San Francisco.

**MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.**  
**Shipping.**  
 10 a.m.—*China* leaves for Ningpo and Shanghai.  
 Noon.—*Glenartney* leaves for Shanghai.

**MEMOS. FOR SATURDAY.**  
**Shipping.**  
 Daylight.—Zamboanga leaves for B'gkok.  
 Goods per *Bolyo* undelivered after this  
 date subject to rent.  
**Miscellaneous.**  
 Claims against the *Palestine* must be sent  
 in to the Agents before Noon.

**Auction.**  
**Noon.—General Weekly Sale by Messrs.**  
**Lane, Crawford & Co.**

THE  
HONGKONG DISPENSARY,  
*Established A.D. 1841.*  
香港大藥房  
—  
A. S. WATSON & Co.,

**FAMILY & DISPENSING CHEMISTS,  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,  
IMPORTERS  
OF  
DRUGGISTS' Sundries, NURSERY REQUI-  
SITES, TOILET REQUISITES, ENGLISH,  
AMERICAN, AND FRENCH PATENT  
MEDICINES.  
MANUFACTURERS**

OF  
Soda Water, Lemonade, Tonic Water,  
Gingerade, Potass Water, Sarsaparilla  
Water, and other Aerated Waters.  
The Manufactory is under direct and  
continuous European Supervision.  
Hongkong, June 1. 1876.

The publication of this issue commenced at 7.40 p.m.

**THE CHINA MAIL.**

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1877.

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THE world has not hitherto expected

much from Siam, but according to a correspondent of the *Alta California*, who writes from Bangkok under date

of the 20th December last, the Siamesese will "loom up suddenly some day and eclipse even the more advanced nations of the earth by their progress and development." This prophetic correspondent

does not condescend to afford the reasons on which he bases his important announcement; in fact he tells us in the sentences immediately preceding that

while in many respects the Siamese are superior to the Chinese, they are not equal to the Japanese in intellectual

vigour. It would be interesting to know what are these respects in which the Chinese are surpassed by their Siamese neighbours, but on these points the correspondent is perhaps discreetly silent. The whole communication reads very much like an elaborate puff of the Siamese capital and people at the expense of the Chinese. "Bangkok," he says, "is our oriental Venice. Nearly all of its houses and temples are on the water. Some of the boats and gardens

which, some of the *sohas* and *pagodas* were very extensive and present a fine appearance when seen from a distance, and I am told that there are no sacred edifices except at Agra and Delhi, in India, which equal in grandeur those of Bangkok. The style of architecture seems to be that of the ancient races of India, and yet I think there are traces of the Egyptian in it.—The spiral spires and slender minarets, the vaulted

domes and crystal columns are strange combinations in architecture. Bangkok, with its ancient Indian architecture, exhibiting possibly traces of the Egyptian, and above all with its "spiral spires and slender minarets, the porcelain domes and crystal columns" must go up one after this eloquent *exposé* of its hitherto unrecognized beauties. "Full many a day of

**Departures During the Week.**—March 18, Taiwan, for Hongkong; 20, Europe for Shanghai; 20, Han Kwang, for Shanghai; 21, Douglas, for Hongkong.

**Shipping in Port.**—Sheldrake, Middleling, Ling Fong, Ho-Chung.

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**RETURN of Visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending March 28th, 1977.**—

We learn that the Ti-po of one of the villages on the west side of the Island is rendering himself rather obstructive to the work of education. As our readers are aware, part of the educational scheme of the Government is to grant a bonus of \$25 or \$15 to each of the masters of those village schools that pass the annual examination in a satisfactory manner. It seems that the master of the village school referred to was awarded \$15 at the last examination, whereupon the Ti-po preferred a modest "squeeze" of \$50 from the sum. This demand the schoolmaster very properly resisted, and the Ti-po has since endeavoured to effect his object by keeping children away from the school. We are perfectly certain that nothing of this kind will be permitted in Hongkong. Ti-pos are, no doubt, very important personages in their own villages, but we cannot afford to have the educational scheme rendered abortive to accommodate them in corrupt and unlawful practices. If the Ti-po does not take care he may find that a little money or hard labour is extorted from him instead of from the schoolmaster.

THE telegram which we published on Saturday stating that "the separate command in the Straits and China is to be abolished," has, we believe, caused some little mystification in the Colony. There is no "separate command" in the Straits and China at the present moment in the sense which most people would attach to that phrase, as General Colborne commands the forces both here and at Singapore. Had the word "independent" been used instead of "separate" the meaning of the telegram would be probably more obvious. We take it to signify that the independent command in the Straits and China—that is, independent of India or any other country—is to be abolished. If the announcement is correct, we presume we shall lose the General and his staff, and the direction of the troops here will be vested in the Lieut.-Colonel in command. Hongkong and the Straits will then probably be united with India for military purposes.

**LOCAL AND GENERAL.**

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To-morrow being Good Friday, there will be no issue of the *China Mail*.

The S. S. *Glaucus* left Singapore yesterday afternoon for this port, and the S. S. *Olysses* is to leave on the 8rd proximo.

WE are glad to learn that Sir Brooke Robertson is slowly recovering from his late severe illness, and that more genial weather will in all probability restore him to health.

H. M. S. *Ply*, which returned from a cruise this morning, will, we hear, proceed to Hoihow on Saturday. She will, we understand, run down to Pakhoi, with the new Consul (Mr Harvey)—who will be replaced at Hoihow by Mr Bullock, from Canton—so that the new port will not be actually in trading form until the 2nd or 3rd prox.

At the same application was made in the Supreme Court to-day before the Chief Justice and Mr Justice Snowdon by Mr Handley, for leave to appeal to the Privy Council against the decision of the Chief Justice in the case of Lembeke and another *versus* the Oriental Banking Corporation, in which his Lordship decided in favour of the plaintiff for some £700. This was the first application of the kind since the promulgation of the Civil Procedure Ordinance, but as the Code made no provision on the subject, the form of practice in moving the Court for leave to appeal was a puzzle to the Bar as well as to the Bench, so much so that their Lordships made no order on the present application; though the Chief Justice suggested that it should be presented to the Court in the form of a petition.

**Arrivals During the Week.—March 18,**  
Douglas from Hongkong; 18, Sheldrake,  
from Hai Tan Straits; 22, Midge, from  
Amoy; 22, Ling Feng, from Wanchow;  
28, Ho-Chung, from Hongkong.

	European.	Chinese
Thursday, Mar. 22nd,	32	584
Friday, 23rd,	26	639
Saturday, 24th,	35	425
Sunday, 25th,	42	Sunday
Monday, 26th,	19	268
Tuesday, 27th,	40	307
Wednesday, 28th,	76	273
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Totals,	210	2,441
Grand total, 2,651.		

The *San Francisco Chronicle*, in a leading article, has the following remarks as to the disposal of the surplus of the Geneva Award:—"It appears there will be some eight or ten millions of dollars surplus of money derived from the Geneva Award before all recognized claims are paid." It is a question of considerable importance, and one which nearly affects our national honour, what is to be done with the surplus. It may be that we have a technical legal right to retain this sum of money and to turn it into the United States Treasury but it is clear that we have no moral right to pursue such a course. If the Government, after satisfying all the claims that the Award was intended to cover, finds itself in possession of a surplus, that surplus, if honesty and honour, b-long to Great Britain, and should be frankly returned to her. Our Government cannot afford to keep this undistributed sum. Such a course would be neither honest nor honourable. Whatever specious defence of it may be made by the lawyers. In the long run honesty is the best policy. Our Government will consult its interests, as well as its dignity, by turning over the surplus to Great Britain."

The *Ceylon Times* says that the Directors of the Chartered Mercantile Bank have despatched a special agent to California in order to obtain reliable information as to the actual yield of the great silver mines. The value of the stock of these mines according to the latest reports, has depreciated enormously, and many investors have been ruined in consequence. The California mine is said to have produced in November last 13,000 tons of ore, averaging \$96 per ton, while the Consolidated Virginia turned out 10,400 tons in the same month averaging \$87 per ton. The Consolidated did not pay any dividend, and it is alleged that the dividend paid by the California, with the expenses, more than absorbed the product of the month. Out of 120 Washoe mines on the list of the San Francisco Stock Board only 13 ever paid any dividends. The two mines, the Consolidated Virginia and the California, have paid nearly as much in dividends as all the rest combined, and they are said to be the best managed.

In Idaho Territory, where there are 12 mines in all, only one has paid a dividend. The Idaho, with a nominal capital of \$54,000, paid the only money paid by the original corporations to be in the form of assessments, and the actual paid-up capital is only \$3,301,860; which is gone principally out of the hands of outside investors into the pockets of California Street operators. Altogether, there is no much prospect of the world being flooded with silver from these famed California mines. Dr. Linderman, Director of the American Mint, estimates the annual silver product of the world at \$75,000,000, of which India is likely to consume half, and China and Japan twelve to fifteen million dollars.

**INQUEST.**

An inquest was held this afternoon (29th) on the body of John Garland, third engineer on board the S. S. *Pernambuco*, at the Government Civil Hospital, by Mr. James Russell, coroner, with Messrs. A. Hancock, F. W. Koss and R. Rinaker, as Jury. The deceased died rather suddenly last night.

The first witness examined was Julius Sier, P.C. No. 38. He testified to removing the body of the deceased from the steamer to the Hospital.

Dr. Wharry, superintendent of the Hospital, was next called. The body was admitted about 12 o'clock to-day. It was that of a European male adult, poorly nourished. It had a cut on the chin, caused probably by a fall.

Mr Joseph Brown, chief engineer of the *Perambuco*, was examined. The deceased was third engineer, named John Garland, a native of Leith in Scotland, aged about 22 or 23. He joined the ship here. He was poor in health and witness gave him as little work as possible. He coughed a good deal at night and he appeared to be suffering from general debility. He did his work from morning till evening yesterday. A little after 6 p.m. yesterday he was washed his face in a bucket of water and stumbled. Witness was close to him at the time, and heard the stumble. When he turned round, he saw the deceased fall over the bucket, and his chin must have been cut by the sharp edge of the ventilator. The child did not bleed, but the nose bled a little. Witness then went up and supported him by the arms. There was nobody near him enough to have pushed him down. A doctor was sent for, and previous to this some fresh water was sprinkled on him; it having been thought that he had fainted. About quarter to 8, the doctor came, but he was dead in fact he died in witness' arms. No report was made to the Police then, because it was so very hard. A report was made this morning.

Capt. Wm. Hyde, master of the *S. S. Perambuco*, was called. He stated that the deceased was aged 24 years, a native of Leith, Scotland. Witness was called to see the deceased, and he thought he had fainted of exhaustion; and remedies were applied to revive him, but he never speaks. The doctor was sent for, but when he came, he said the deceased was dead. The doctor was of opinion that the deceased died of heart disease. There was a cut on the chin, but it did not bleed. Witness did not report to the Police because it was blowing hard, and he thought it would not matter.



doctor came from the *Antenor* which was lying close by. There were \$32 wages due to him, as also \$8 found in his box. His effects were handed over to the Shipping Master. The deceased never complained during the time he was on board since the 1st March.

Mr Stockhausen stated that the deceased had been boarding in his hotel several times. He owed \$16 to the house and had a box of effects there. It was not detained because of this claim. The deceased never complained of illness during the time he was in the house. He was of perfectly temperate habits.

The Jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

### Police Intelligence.

(Before James Russell, Esq.)

March 29, 1877.

#### DAMAGE OF TREES.

Tin Acheung, a goat-owner, again appeared to answer the charge of allowing goats to destroy Government trees at Wanchai. Inspector Cleaver reported that since the adjournment, no goats had been near the place. Fined \$5.

#### A VAGRANT.

Wan Lin Kwai, a carpenter, was brought up for being a vagrant, having been found in the Sentry Box at Government Wharf. He had been brought up before the Court a month ago, and was given 90 cents to enable him to go to Canton. Seven days' hard labour.

#### CHINA FIRE.

Richard Welch, a ship's steward, at present boarding at the Sailor's Home, was brought up for refusing to pay the chair which he had used for more than two hours. He was also drunk. The defendant who had been convicted once before was fined \$2, and ordered to pay 50 cents amends, or 8 days' imprisonment.

#### ROBBERY AT A GRAVE.

Chun Angow and Chun Fook Sun were again brought up to answer the charge of robbing a dead body of some ornaments. Inspector Cradock testified to receiving the report and to proceeding to the grave said to have been robbed. He found the lid of the coffin out. He then went to 104 Queen's Road West and arrested the 1st prisoner, who was pointed out by the approver. There was a woman with him in the lot, and as the prisoner was being led away, he said something to the woman, who then went to the kitchen, whither the Inspector followed her. She went to a corner and put her hand on something. This the Inspector discovered to be a bundle containing a thick silver saw, a chisel and a short implement. These were instruments particularly adapted to make holes of that kind on the lid of coffins. The Inspector further deposed that in pursuance of instructions, he opened the grave and removed the lid from the coffin, wherein there was the body of a female. The head on her head had been violently disturbed and was lying underneath the hole in the coffin lid. There were no silver ornaments in the hair, nor earrings on the ears, neither any head-dress on the head. The silver bangles were on the arms, high up above the elbows. There was also a ring on one of the fingers of the left hand. A new lid was then put on the coffin and the grave filled in and chummed over. After the 1st prisoner was arrested the Inspector went back to his house and searched it; he found an unlocked box in which were some pawn tickets and some female ornaments. One of these tickets was recognised by a pawnbroker as having been issued by his shop, and it related to a pair of ear-rings pawned by the 2nd prisoner. The land-lady of the house in which the 1st prisoner was arrested gave testimony to the 1st prisoner and his wife having lived in the house since April 1876. The 2nd prisoner frequently visited them. On the 13th November last, the 1st prisoner left home leaving his wife in the house. The 2nd prisoner came to live with the woman until the 5th inst., when the 1st prisoner returned. He accused his wife of infidelity and beat her as well as the 2nd prisoner, who then went away from the house altogether. He came again on the 18th or 19th inst. with a sword in his hand and threatened to kill the 1st prisoner. The latter, however, was not at home, and he was persuaded to leave the house. On the 23rd the 2nd prisoner came again and saw the 1st prisoner. He said "You tore my clothes and beat me; if you do not pay me I will call the Police." The 1st prisoner replied "Very well, when I have money, I will pay you," adding "I do not believe what I heard about you and my wife, I do not like you raving about the street; I will forgive you all about it, and you had better come back to live, and while I have rice, you can partake of it." The 2nd prisoner said "If you will pay me for the clothing, I will come back, if not I will call the Police." The next time he came again was with the Police when the 1st was arrested. The land-lady did not know anything about the robbery of the dead, nor of the implements. The interpreter at the West Point Station was examined, but he only confirmed the fact that the prisoners had made certain statements. The 1st prisoner then made his defence. He stated that the 2nd prisoner was his nephew and had no employment, but he always came to have a meal, that the charge was false; and that during his absence the 2nd prisoner had been to live with his wife. On his return to the Colony, he went home at 9 p.m., and found the 2nd prisoner was taking a meal with his wife in his room. He was very angry, but concealed his anger. He made enquiries next few days, and found that what he heard regarding his wife was true. He spoke to his wife, who confessed that she had been a very bad woman. He therefore beat his wife and the 2nd prisoner, turning the latter out of the house. Afterwards he heard that the 2nd prisoner had been to his house with a sword. He came again afterwards and 1st prisoner told him "You are my relation, I will look over what has passed; you must not go roving about the streets. You can come back to the house." After that he brought a Constable and preferred this false charge against him. The land-lady could prove that he was in the house on the night of the 10th inst. The land-lady of the house was examined on behalf of the 1st prisoner, but she could not say that the 1st prisoner was at home on the night of the 10th inst., as her child was sick that evening and she was too busy attending to it. Both prisoners were committed for trial.

### SWATOW ATHLETIC SPORTS.

(Communicated.)

The usual monotonous routine of business in this progressive but somewhat neglected portion of the Celestial Empire, was enlivened on the 24th current, by a regularly organised Athletic Meeting at which one and all of the residents took part, and from the success which crowned the day it is to be hoped that these gatherings will continue to flourish. The day was all that could be wished, although at one time it was feared we should have rain.

There was a large gathering of Europeans, and among the spectators could be reckoned quite a number of the fair sex, whose presence added greatly to the tone of the proceedings.

The ground, which was lent for the occasion by an old and much-respected member of the community, was tastefully decorated with flags, and refreshments were provided in tents erected for the purpose and for the convenience of the guests, among whom, taking great interest in the events of the day, were the whole of the notable Chinese officials connected with the place, and great praise is due to the able management of the Stewards and Committee.

1.—PUTTING THE SHOT. Cup, valued \$5.—There were nine entries for this event, but only six competed, viz.: Messrs King, Bridgman, Cuniffy, Sage, Pollock, Nouchen. Mr Cuniffy who was decidedly the favourite commenced by putting 28 feet with little or no effort, followed by Mr King with 30 feet 4 inches; this was again topped by Sage with 30 feet 5 inches, and this was evidently his best, as after this he fell back and was soon out of the game, retiring gracefully with Nouchen, whose best throw was 24.7.—The prize now rested between King and Cuniffy, the latter being declared winner, having reached 34.9, against Mr King's 33.3. Mr King's style being certainly superior to that of Cuniffy, whose putting to him more the appearance of a throw. The result was, Cuniffy 34.9, King 33.3, Sage 30.7.

2.—100 YARDS FLAT RACE. Cup, valued \$25.—Out of thirteen entries for this race only seven came to the post. There was some little skirmishing, and a few false starts were made owing to the starters pistol missing fire; this mode of starting being abandoned, the field got away well together at the fall of a flag—one unfortunate, not understanding the change of programme, remained arguing with the starter until the race was over, which was rather unfortunate as he was confident of winning had he started. D'Arnou, Bridgman and Cuniffy being equally favourites the excitement was very great, the runners all three kept well together, but D'Arnou, who showed to the front, closely followed by Bridgman, Cuniffy coming in a fair third.

1, D'Arnou, Time, 12 sec.  
2, Bridgman, " 12 sec.  
3, Cuniffy, " 18 sec.

3.—THREE LEGGED RACE PRIZE.—For this race only five couples came to the front, and it was quite open who would be the winners; a good start was obtained, but in a few seconds one unfortunate couple came utterly to grief, and rolled over each other in a most frantic manner, trying hard to gain an upright, but utterly failing in the attempt; three couples came in neck and neck about 3 seconds behind the winners. It was a very good race and the winners were greatly cheered, they having taken the lead at the commencement and kept it all through.

1, Bridgman & Paul, Time, 18 sec.  
2, Peterson & Rogge, " 20 sec.

4.—WIDE JUMP. Cup, valued \$25.—Five Competitors came to the post, viz.: King, D'Arnou, Wittie, Bridgman, and Sage. Wittie and Sage soon gave out and left the other three equal at 14 feet 9 inches; some pretty jumping now took place and ended by King being declared winner, although Bridgman cleared 17 feet 2 inches; this fine jump was unfortunately given as a false and being his last chance he had to retire with second place, both Bridgman's and D'Arnou's style being much superior to that of King's.

1, King, 16 feet 8 inches.  
2, Bridgman, 16 " 7 "  
3, D'Arnou, 16 " 5 "

5.—HALF MILE FLAT RACE. Cup, valued \$35.—Only three started for this race, viz., Cuniffy, Nouchen and Scott. A good start was made. Cuniffy taking the lead from the commencement, followed closely by Nouchen, Scott a feeble third, and in this order they finished, Cuniffy winning easily. Nouchen ran well and evidently misjudged his adversary's powers of endurance, and might have shown well to the front had he put on his spirit a little sooner.

1, Cuniffy.  
2, Nouchen.  
3, Scott.  
Time, 2 m. 45 sec.

6.—HIGH JUMP. Cup, valued \$25.—Three contestants only put in an appearance for this event. King, D'Arnou and Bridgman, and owing to the take off not being good or some other cause the jumping was not as good as might have been expected. King cleared 4 feet 6 inches and left the prize for D'Arnou, and Bridgman, when the height of 4 feet 7 inches had been reached Bridgman failed, thus leaving D'Arnou the winner.

1, D'Arnou, 4 feet 7 inches.  
2, Bridgman, 4 " 6 "

7.—SACK RACE PRIZE.—This was certainly the most amusing event of the meeting and created roars of laughter. Ten competitors started and all went off fairly well together, but only a few yards had been covered when Eugene a Frenchman had been suddenly and unexpectedly knocked down by a sudden and unexpected fall. Cuniffy having come to grief attempted to roll in and was aided to get between two sacks, bringing them all in a heap to the ground; Rogge having got over half the course tripped up and faded more colour in his cheeks than when he started. It now became exciting in the extreme, and the race lay between Sage, Granatier and Paul; Granatier rushed to the front and became an easy winner, followed by Sage, Paul being in the meantime come a purser was dragged in by a few of his supporters.

1, Granatier.  
2, Sage.

8.—HURDLE RACE, 120 YARDS, 10 FLIGHTS.—Cup, valued \$25.—This being looked upon as the event of the day it was rather disappointing to find only three candidates showed up, viz., they were the favourites some of whom were a little disappointed. D'Arnou and King were well together, followed closely by Bridgman, who, however, was not long in the lead; D'Arnou and King ran equally to the seventh hurdle, when King drew slightly ahead; D'Arnou soon regained his lost ground and looked like winning, the last hurdle being cleared by both men simultaneously; King however taking it in his stride had the advantage of D'Arnou who landed from a jump and came to the post close on the heels of the winner. King certainly cleared his hurdles in splendid style.

1, King.  
2, D'Arnou.  
3, Bridgman.  
Time, 21 seconds.

9.—HANDICAP, 45 YARDS, FLAT RACE. Cup, valued \$25.—Out of nine entries for this race seven came to the starting post, and one post entry was made, making the number eight in all; two false starts having been made, the third was more successful and all got off fairly well; the tail was soon disposed of, and the race was finished by Mr Fyfe (of the S. S. *State of Louisiana*), coming in an easy winner; it was evident from the first that Mr Fyfe would not be far off at the finish, and from his style and the ease with which he finished this gentleman possesses no mean powers of endurance, and we anticipate hearing more of his prowess should the vessel to which he belongs remain long on the coast.

1, Fyfe, 5 yards.  
2, Cuniffy, scratch.  
3, Frunauer, 16 yards.  
The programme finished up by a Tag of War, Swatow against the World, won by Swatow after a pretty hard struggle. The prizes were then distributed by the Ladies and some neat little speeches were made on the occasion. It is notable that out of seven Cups, six have been carried off by members of the Customs Staff, and it is but fair to state that to the regret of all, one of our most prominent Athletes was unfortunately prevented by illness from taking part in the Sports.

*Palman qui meruit ferat.*

### China.

FOOCHOW.

(Herald, Mar. 22.)

The Customs Cruiser *Lang Feng* returned from Wen Chow to-day. She brings satisfactory information as to the friendly bearing of the inhabitants.

Mr Skatschhoff, Consul-General for Russia in China and Japan, has just paid a flying visit to this port—having arrived S. S. *Taiwan* and left per S. S. *Douglas*.

A steam launch was, we hear, nearly swamped on Tuesday night last, in trying to reach the S. S. *Douglas*, against a strong head-wind. Fortunately for those on board, the launch, although in a sinking condition, was just able to steam alongside a Chinese gunboat.

*Apropos* of the late fire in the Settlement, it is said that the Chinese inhabitants are making strenuous efforts to close the numerous gambling houses in the neighborhood. Much mischief is caused by these establishments, in addition to the increased risk of fire consequent on the careless habits of the frequenters.

The wreck of a small foreign-built vessel, painted white, and supposed to be a pilot-boat, was seen off Turnabout Island on the 27th ultimo. During the recent trip of H. M. S. *Sheeldrake* to the Haitian Straits, enquiries were, we believe, made regarding this wreck; but without eliciting any satisfactory information.

H. M. S. *Sheeldrake* returned from the Haitian Straits on the 18th instant, and is now ornamenting the Pagoda Anchorage. This valuable craft draws too much water to render practicable any visit to the Foreign Settlement—even at the top of a spring tide. It is therefore beyond a joke to look upon her as a protection to the British community of the port. Her presence on this station bears in fact its own tale of Admiralty bungling;—or how not to do the right thing.

Since the publication of our last issue, two large fires have to be chronicled,—one in the South Suburb, and the other in the Foreign Settlement. The first named broke out on Sunday, at about 1 p.m. in an opium shop near the long bridge. It might probably have been extinguished at once, had not a number of roughs rushed in to steal the drug, thereby causing great confusion. Messrs. Gilman & Co's fire engine was in attendance protecting Messrs. Ollie & Co's shop, and a neighboring godown or packing house. The fire raged till 2 a.m. on Monday, ending in the destruction of about 400 Chinese houses, and the loss of three lives.

The second fire occurred on Monday, shortly after 9 p.m. originating in a Ningpo merchant's house, close to the creek forming the eastern boundary of Messrs. John Forster & Co's shop. The native version of the affair is to the effect that a man was upstairs enjoying his afternoon pipe when some sparks fell on a bundle of nankens, which quickly ignited and set fire to a quantity of hemp, rope, mats, and other stuff about the place; before the flames could be extinguished. There being so much combustible matter at hand the fire spread with great rapidity, and might have led to the destruction of a vast amount of foreign property had not circumstances been favorable for stopping its progress. As it occurred during the day time there was, of course, less difficulty in dealing with it, and there was fortunately but little wind, and a high tide. Messrs. John Forster & Co. had a large fire engine which was immediately available, and was in a very short time followed by engines from Messrs. Gilman & Co., Birley & Co., Russell & Co., Adamson Bell & Co., Gibb, Livingston & Co., Jardine, Matheson & Co., and the Maritime Customs, besides gangs of men from other foreign honours. A Mandarin was also in attendance with some soldiers. The house was intense that the corner of Messrs. John Forster & Co's Godown at one time was on fire although there were two hoses playing on it. Their tea-room windows and the upper verandahs were also smoking, though later on they were removed, and the spars of the small bridge over the creek and about Messrs. Forster & Co's waterside shed were with difficulty prevented from bursting into flames. Had they become ignited, the miserable shanties in front of Messrs. John Forster & Co's offices must have been burnt, in which case we do not see that any efforts could have saved the Toon Ku Hong and the vast amount of adjacent foreign and native property.

The fire was not long in running up the street by the side of Messrs. Turner & Co's godown, but was checked in a most masterly manner by some foreigners who evidently knew how to pull a house down, thus preventing an alarming extension of fire in that direction. Luckily, only about 30 Chinese houses, in all, were burnt, the fire having been got well under before 4 p.m.

A question has been raised as to whether the occupants of the houses built over the brink of the river have any right to be there, and we hear that official enquiries are being instituted on the subject—with a view to the improvement of this very defective part of the main street. If these efforts are successful, a boon will be conferred on the entire population, the street at this part of the Settlement being wholly inadequate to the traffic constantly moving along it.

### CELEBRITIES AT HOME.

Miss M. E. BRADDON (Mrs. MAXWELL) AT REMONTO.

As a solitary gleam of wintry sunshine lights up the shapely trees and broad green glades of Richmond Park, and the wind whistles the leaves in circling eddies, we discover that we are not alone in our morning cart. Sweeping along at a hand-gallop comes a lady clad in riding-dress of the severest order; the sable habit is relieved only by a tiny patch of colour at the throat, and the orthodox 'chimney-pot' completes the costume. The horsewoman is the owner of a name known wherever the English—and for that matter the French—language is spoken; for her work, once sneered at in this country as 'sensational', was quickly appreciated by the Gaul, whose keen instinct detected its dramatic power. She sits her white-footed golden bay squarely and well, now and then leaning slightly forward to pat his muscular neck, and call him by pet names; for Kaiser is a favourite animal with his mistress, who, as her writings indicate, possesses a generous sympathy with horses and dogs, cats and birds. Her gallop on Kaiser is at once the exercise and the recreation of one of the most diligent and successful workers of the time; but it is soon over, and we turn our horses' heads towards Lichfield House, a fine old dwelling of various-coloured brick, with oaken staircase, bay windows, and oddly-shaped rooms, looking over long strips of lawn extending from end to end of the stiff rectangular garden, in which 'pin-backs' and Uglars look out of place. Those long straight walks were made to be swept by the 'seques', indented by the red heels, scratched into odd patterns by the scabbards, and prodded by the clouded canes of a generation which took its pleasure in 'trim gardens', were a watch in each fob, and turned a repartee or parried a rapier-thrust with the same elegant facility. As we arrive at the stables of the old mansion of the Bishops of Lichfield, Mrs. Maxwell performs a duty, the omission of which on any occasion would be felt as a grievous wrong by the intelligent and affectionate Kaiser. Quickly alighting his mistress leads him to his loose box, takes off his bridle, and feeds him from a huge sack of bread. This pleasant duty over, the hour of work arrives—of quick work too, for the author of *Aurora Floyd* rarely writes for more than two hours a day. This may not seem a very long spell of toil, but in Mrs. Maxwell's case the stamping in black and white of the scene or subject previously thought out with great care is rapidly performed, the two hours sufficing for the production of four pages of letterpress. Probably literature has no more earnest devotee; for apart from her center in Richmond Park and her household duties, her entire time is devoted to literature, to reading; omnivorously, to thinking out new subjects, accumulating facts, acquiring technical expressions, and inventing illustrations. Above the pretty drawing-room, adjacent to the grounds where stood Pagoda House, is a certain blue chamber, from which the profane are rigidly excluded. This is the literary workshop. In the centre of the room is a great square table, covered with books of reference and a litter of pamphlets and papers, odds and ends of every imaginable kind. There is also a huge office-table and an upright desk, with a regiment of drawers opening and shutting simultaneously. But not one of these aids to composition is favoured by Mrs. Maxwell, who prefers an eccentric attitude of her own. By the fireside is a particularly low uncomfortable chair. In this the author unfolds herself up with pieces of thick cardboard resting on her lap, and a little ink-bottle held firmly against it with the left hand. This apparently cramped position appears to be favourable to composition, for the pen moves swiftly over the great square slips of paper, and the corrections are few and far between. If we are not mistaken, it was once an article of popular belief that the calligraphy of literary folk was of the worst possible quality, and that they took a savage delight in leaving something to the compositor's imagination. This has ceased to be, at least universally, the case now. Those who write a great deal ought to know that it saves time to be very legible, and Mrs. Maxwell, who has written more than thirty three-volume novels since she penned the *Trial of the Serpent*, writes a singularly clear hand on the inner edge of the pen, and punctuates most exactly. In the handwriting itself there is nothing feminine—it might have been written by the adjutant of a cavalry regiment; the woman peeps out in the tailor's trimble which protects the middle finger from the brand of ink. Mrs. Maxwell has by practice reduced writing—the mere production of copy—to a science. From the outer edge of the pen she has turned to the inner, as a woman would see for the hand, and has systematically reduced the size of her letters, because she has discovered a truth which deserves to be published—that the massive character now in fashion takes more time than a smaller style, because the writer must cover more ground.

Having been admitted to the privilege of seeing Mrs. Maxwell at work, we hardly feel justified in revealing a secret without which the information we have supplied would be worthless. There is 'copy' all over the room, as there are pictures, as there are books, as there are receipts bills and housekeeping accounts, but the 'copy' is merely the outward expression, the visible sign of work. Where is the hidden spring? In a small drawer carefully locked repose the 'sketches' of the novelist. They occupy

very little space, these dry bones, to be afterwards 'clothed on,' as Mr Tennyson has it, with flesh and blood, light and warmth, life and atmosphere. *Dead Men's Shoes* in the 'sketches' hardly covers a couple of pages, and there has evidently been much resetting of the bones and rearrangement of the vertebrae. The difficulty of the writer is not in making the 'sketches,' but in clinging faithfully to it to the end. As the work goes on and the creature breathes and moves, it displays an irrepressible instinct either to break out of bounds, to multiply the number of its vertebrae, or to abandon the higher form altogether and dwindle into an invertebrate of one volume. It requires something beyond imagination and mere power of writing to curb the unruly beast trying to bolt out of the course, and to spur the laggard who dies away to nothing at the distance-post. This last metaphor, by the way, would have rejoiced the soul of Miss Braddon's father, who, under the signature of 'Rough Robin,' wrote many an article in the old *Sporting Magazine* (Pittman's), which preceded *Daily*. Many ingenious theories have been propounded to account for the knowledge of horseflesh displayed in *Aurora Floyd*. One wisecracker asserted that Mrs. Maxwell was born at Malton in Yorkshire, under the very shadow of Whitwell; that her baby footstools were made on Langton Wood; that she 'lipped in numbers' as they went up on the Knave's mire; that she read *Riff's Guide* when other children would have been reading *Robinson Crusoe*. But our wisecracker's traditions are, as Mr Hugelmann remarked on a memorable occasion, *comme toutes les traditions*. Mrs. Maxwell's father was not a Yorkshire but a Cornishman; she has never been to Yorkshire except on a visit; and she acquired her knowledge of sporting events from her father, as she inherited her literary taste from her mother.

Long before the period of *Lady Audley*, *Aurora Floyd*, and *Henry Dunbar*, Miss Braddon had commenced literary work after the fashion sanctioned by generations of authors. She had written verses, and collected the best of them in a volume, entitled *Garibaldi and other Poems*, and published in 1861. Equally in accordance with precedent, Miss Braddon wrote for the stage *Arcturion*, a success, *Arcturion*, and a little piece for Miss Swanborough, the *Lord of Arcturion*, which produced that sweetest of money, the first one earns. Meanwhile she had several novels upon the stocks, and among them the unexpunged tramp card, *Lady Audley's Secret*. This story was the source of unmitigated misery to its author, who misdevised the well incident, and trembled at the fire with Robert looked up in his room. It came out in a serial named *Robin Good-fellow*, long since defunct, and at first made no sign; but when it appeared in three volumes, it at once placed the writer in the front rank of novelists. Its success was by no means retarded by its being dubbed a 'sensational' novel. In 1862 the critics had been weaned from the strong situations which the late Lord Lytton and Charles Dickens had used so skillfully, and insisted on the merit of the *roman de caractère*, made popular in France by Balzac and England by his great disciple Thackeray. *Lady Audley* was cried down as 'sensational,' but was eagerly read by the public, who, despite the teaching of superior beings, are always impressed by dramatic force. *Aurora Floyd*, a far better-written story, resounded the critics to Miss Braddon, who shortly afterwards produced *Henry Dunbar* as great a success on the stage as any almost incessantly, and produced in rapid succession a number of novels, among which the *Doctor's Wife* bears perhaps the greatest evidence of careful execution. Reading widely and diligently, she gave her chief study to Balzac and Bulwer, reading their works over and over again, and received many flattering letters and useful hints from the great English novelist, who mingled epistles but salutary criticism in his pleasant epistles, carefully treasured until now at Lichfield House. It is, however, curious evidence of the waywardness of human nature that Mrs. Maxwell confesses that although she regards Balzac and Bulwer as the great masters of prose fiction, she has experienced more pleasure in reading Dickens than any other author, dead or alive. When in her pleasant drawing-room, surrounded by her pet editions of favourite authors, she is not chary of delivering her opinions of contemporaries, of whom she holds George Eliot in especial veneration. 'It is true, art,' maintains Mrs. Maxwell, 'to have another one's sympathies in favour of Hetty Sorrel. She is vain, silly, and almost heartless; but her very folly and helplessness compel my pity, and although I have read *Adam Bede* a dozen times, I can never restrain my tears for Hetty.' The inventor of the 'sensational' novel is brimful of sensibility, and, moreover, knows the value of the maxim: *c'est le plus facile*. In other circumstances she is by no means a fearful personage, but full of spirit, dash, and vivacity. As she flashes out an opinion that bright gray eyes light up, and the voice becomes full of earnestness. It would perhaps hardly be correct to style Mrs. Maxwell's conversation as brilliant. It has other and more valuable qualities in its wonderful light and shade, its quaint suggestiveness, earnest sympathy with all that is true and noble, and keen appreciation of everything beautiful in nature and art. Yet with every temptation to indulge in social pleasures, Mrs. Maxwell preserves her love for the genuine work of literature, instead of the more widely appreciated diversion of talking about it, and lives like a true artist, entirely in her art.

### GEORGE ELIOT'S EARNINGS.

George Eliot is the subject of every letter writer as well as of every critic, and the *Boston Herald* publishes a long sketch of her life and characteristics which contains some interesting new statements. The writer says these figures do not materially vary from the truth as to George Eliot's earnings from her works: "Scenes of Clerical Life," \$1,000; "Silas Marner," \$1,500; "Adam Bede," \$3,500; "Mill on the Floss," \$4,000; "Romola," \$3,000; "Felix Holt," \$4,500; "Spanish Gypsy," \$2,500; "Middlemarch," \$2,000; "Jubal," \$4,000; "Daniel Deronda," \$2,000; making \$34,000 in all, or about \$160,000 in our currency. This is an average of \$9,000 a year, for the eighteen years in which she has been writing.

A *Boston* out West recently reasoned out a verdict more sensible than one-half the verdicts usually rendered. It appears that an Irishman conceiving that a little powder thrown upon some green wood would facilitate its burning, directed a small stream from a keg upon the burning pile, but not possessing a hand sufficiently quick to cut this off at the desirable

moment, he was blown into a million pieces. The following was the verdict delivered with great gravity by the official:—"Can't be called suicide, because he didn't mean to kill himself; it wasn't visitation of God, because he wasn't struck by lightning; he didn't die for want of breath, for he hadn't anything left to breathe with; it's plain he didn't know what he was about, so I shall bring in—*dead for want of common sense*."

### Quotations.

HONGKONG, March 29, 1877.  
OPIUM.—New Patna, cash... \$585  
" New Bonanza, cash, 550  
" New Malwa, cash, 555  
" credit, 560  
" Allowance Teels, 4 a 24  
" Old Malwa, cash, 575  
" credit, 580  
" Allowance Teels, 12 a 16  
CAMPHOR, ... 16 a 16  
QUICKSILVER, ... 61 a 62  
SALTPETRE, ... 5.70 a 6.20

### Exchange.

Bank, on demand, ... 3/10  
" 30 days' sight, ... 3/10  
" 6 months' sight, ... 3/11 3/11  
Credits, ... 3/11 3/11  
Documentary, 6 months' sight, 3/11 3/11  
Bombay, ... 22 1/2  
Calcutta, ... 22 1/2  
Shanghai, demand, ... 7 1/2  
" 30 days, ... 7 1/2  
Bar Silver, 17, dwts. B., ... 8 1/2 prem.  
Mexicans, ... 3 1/2 nom.  
Gold Leaf, ... 25.90  
English Sovereigns, ... 6.07  
Australian Sovereigns, ... 5.07  
Discount, ... 7 a 9 %

### Shares.

Hongkong Bank, 31  
H.K. Fire Ins. Co., \$540  
China Fire Ins. Co., \$150  
China Traders' Ins. Co., \$2,100  
Union Ins. Society of Canton, \$620  
Chinese Insurance Co., \$200  
North China Ins. Co., \$10  
Yongtze Ins. Association, \$10  
H.K. & W. Dock Co., 32 1/2  
S.K. & M. S.-boat Co., \$10  
Hongkong Hotel Co., \$50  
Chinese Imperial Loan, \$108/10

### Temperatures.

(Taken at Messrs. Falconer & Co.'s Premises, Queen's Road.)

HONGKONG, March 29, 1877.  
BAROMETER—9 A.M. ... 30.100  
Do. 1 P.M. ... 30.050  
Do. 4 P.M. ... 30.028  
THERMOMETER—9 A.M. ... 59 1/2  
Do. 1 P.M. ... 60 1/2  
Do. 4 P.M. ... 60  
Do. (Wet bulb) 9 A.M. ... 60  
Do. Do. 1 P.M. ... 60  
Do. Do. 4 P.M. ... 60  
Do. Minimum over night 56 1/2

### Shipping Intelligence.

HOME SHIPPING.

The following is corrected from the latest London Papers:—

#### DEPARTURES.

Nov. 17, Elice Shaw, from London to Shanghai.  
Nov. 21, America, from Cardiff to Hongkong.  
Nov. 23, Western Chief, from London to Hongkong.  
Nov. 23, Madura, from Cardiff to Hongkong.  
Nov. 23, Hannah Law, from Cardiff to Hongkong.  
Nov. 23, New Era, from Cardiff to Hongkong.  
Dec. 4, Bendultha, from Cardiff to Hongkong.  
Dec. 17, A. E. Vidal, from Hamburg to Hongkong.  
Dec. 17, Carrioka, from London to Hongkong.  
Dec. 19, Channel Queen, from Cardiff to Hongkong.  
Dec. 20, Chinaman, from London to Hongkong.  
Dec. 22, Sophie, from New York to Hongkong.  
Dec. 23, Ino, from Greenock to Swatow.  
Dec. 23, John Nicholson, from New York to Shanghai.  
Dec. 27, Undine, from London to Shanghai.  
Dec. 29, Glysses (str.), from Liverpool to Shanghai, (+ Singapore, reparing).  
Dec. 30, Canaan, from Cardiff to Hongkong.

Jan. 4, O. N. Bishop, from London to Hongkong.  
Jan. 11, Windhover, from London to Shanghai.  
Jan. 12, Woodhall, from Hamburg to Hongkong.  
Jan. 12, Hope, from London to Hongkong.  
Jan. 16, Gryfe, from Cardiff to Hongkong.  
Jan. 18, Batavia, from Hamburg to Hongkong.  
Jan. 31, Forward Ho, from London to Shanghai.  
Feb. 1, Robert Henderson, from Burryport to Hongkong.  
Feb. 2, Polyneasia, from Cardiff to Hongkong.  
Feb. 5, Carrizal, from Cardiff to Hongkong.  
Feb. 8, Daphne, from London to Hongkong.  
Feb. 12, Leading Wind, from Antwerp to Hongkong.  
Feb. 15, Bortha (str.), from Cardiff to Hongkong.  
Feb. 18, Glaucus (str.), from Liverpool to Shanghai.

#### LOADING FOR CHINA AND JAPAN PORTS.

At London.—Steamers via Suez Canal.  
Argentine. Candia.  
Flora Castle. Glenasmole.  
Soudia.

#### Sailing Vessels.

Slr Lancelot. Helvet Will.  
City of Aberdeen. Penrith.  
Antwerp. Enid.  
Scindia. Oskan.  
Commaury. Kalsow.  
At Liverpool.  
Anchises (str.) Lord Macatlay.  
C. W. Cochrane.  
At Glasgow.  
Glenaeagon (str.) Isle of Erin.



## Insurances.

**THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.**  
HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.  
AGENCIES at all the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, and at Singapore, Saigon and Penang.  
Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance granted at the rates of Premium current at the above mentioned Ports.  
NO CHARGE FOR POLICY FEES.  
JAS. B. COUGHTRIE,  
Secretary.  
Hongkong, November 1, 1871.

**LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.**  
(FIRE AND LIFE.)  
CAPITAL—TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against the Risk of FIRE on Buildings or on Goods stored therein, on Coals, in Matched, on Goods on board Vessels, and on Hulls of Vessels in Harbour, at the usual Terms and Conditions.  
Proposals for Life Assurances will be received, and transmitted to the Directors for their decision.  
If required, protection will be granted on first class Lives up to \$1000 on a Single Life.  
For Rates of Premiums, forms of proposals or any other information, apply to  
**ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.**  
Agents Hongkong & Canton.  
Hongkong, January 4, 1867.

**ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.**  
THE Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.  
**MELCHERS & Co.,**  
Agents, Royal Insurance Company.  
Hongkong, January 4, 1867.

**CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY. (LIMITED.)**  
NOTICE.  
POLICIES granted at current rates on Marine Risks to all parts of the World. In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Two Thirds of the Profits are distributed annually to Contributors, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premium contributed by each, the remaining third being carried to Reserve Fund.  
**OLYPHANT & Co.,**  
General Agents.  
Hongkong, April 17, 1873.

**QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.**  
THE Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of \$50,000 on Buildings, or on Goods stored therein, at current local rates, subject to a Discount of 20% on the Premium.  
**NORTON & Co.,**  
Agents.  
Hongkong, January 1, 1874.

**NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.**  
Incorporated by Royal Charter and Special Acts of Parliament.  
ESTABLISHED 1809.  
CAPITAL £2,000,000.  
THE Undersigned, AGENTS at Hongkong for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against FIRE, to the extent of \$10,000 on any Building, or on Merchandise in the same, at the usual Rates, subject to a discount of 20 per cent.  
**GILMAN & Co.,**  
Agents.  
Hongkong, July 6, 1875.

**THE LONDON ASSURANCE.**  
INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER of His Majesty King George The First, A. D. 1720.  
THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to grant Insurances as follows:—  
Marine Department.  
Policies at current rates payable either here, in London or at the principal Port of India, China and Australia.  
Fire Department.  
Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates. A discount of 20% allowed.  
Life Department.  
Policies issued for sums not exceeding \$5,000 on reasonable terms.  
**HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.**  
Hongkong, July 23, 1872.

**MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.**  
THE Undersigned Agents are in receipt of instructions from the Board of Directors authorizing them to issue Policies to the extent of \$10,000 on any one first class risk, or to the extent of \$15,000 on adjoining risks at current rates.  
A Discount of 20% allowed.  
**HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.**  
Hongkong, January 8, 1874.

**MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF MANCHESTER AND LONDON.**  
THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai and Hankow, and are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.  
**HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.**  
Hongkong, October 14, 1868.

## Occidental &amp; Oriental Steam-Ship Company.

TAKING THROUGH CARGO AND PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE, IN CONNECTION WITH THE CENTRAL and UNION PACIFIC AND CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANIES AND ATLANTIC STEAMERS.

THE S. S. "BELGIO," will be despatched for San Francisco via Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 3rd Proximo, at 3 p.m., taking Cargo and Passengers for Japan, the United States and Europe. Connection is made at Yokohama, with Steamers from Shanghai.  
Freight will be received on Board until 4 p.m. of the 2nd Proximo. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 p.m. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.  
Return Passage Tickets available for 6 months are issued at a reduction of 20 per cent. on regular rates.  
For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 37, Queen's Road Central.  
G. B. EMORY, Agent.  
Hongkong, March 19, 1877. ap3

**COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.**  
PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.  
STEAM FOR SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ, ISMAILIA, PORT SAID, NAPLES, AND MARSEILLES; ALSO, PONDICHERRY, MADRAS AND CALCUTTA.

ON THURSDAY, the 5th April, 1877, at Noon, the Company's S. S. "PEIHO," Commandant LEONTOINE, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIES, and CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places.  
Cargo and Species will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.  
Shipping orders will be granted till noon, Cargo will be received on board until 4 p.m., Species and Parcels until 5 p.m. on the 4th April, 1877. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office.)  
Contents and value of Packages are required.  
For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.  
H. DU POUY, Agent.  
Hongkong, March 23, 1877. ap3

**U. S. MAIL LINE.**  
PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.  
THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.  
THE U. S. Mail Steamer "CITY OF TOKIO," will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on SATURDAY, the 14th April, 1877, at 3 p.m., taking Passengers, and Freight, for Japan, the United States, and Europe.  
Through Passengers Tickets and Bills of Lading are issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, and to New York and Europe via OVERLAND RAILWAYS.  
A Steamer of the Mitsui Bishi S. S. Company will leave Shanghai, via the Inland Sea Ports, about same date, and make close connection at Yokohama.  
At New York, Passengers have selection of various lines of Steamers to England, France and Germany.  
Freight will be received on board until 4 p.m., 13th April. Parcel Packages will be received at the office until 5 p.m. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.  
Consular Invoices to accompany Overland Cargo should be sent to the Company's Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.  
For security's sake, Shippers of Overland Cargo are requested to endorse on this Envelope the Marks and Nos. of Packages Shipped, to correspond with those in their Bills of Lading.  
For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 16, Praya Central.  
**RUSSELL & Co., Agents.**  
Hongkong, March 21, 1877. ap14

**THE HONGKONG CHINESE MAIL.**  
The Circulation of THIS PAPER has been very much extended. The following are some of its Agents:—  
Macao.—Man Chuen Shop.  
Canton.—Sing Chuen Native Post Office, Luen Hing Street; Chui Hong Low Hotel, Luen Hing Street; Kwong Tin Fat Shop, Yan Tai Street; Mr. Sit Chuen Fan, Tung Wen Kwan; Yuen Fong Shop, in front of the Provincial Treasurer's Yamen; How Yuen Shop, Small Market Street, New City; Yee Cheung Photograph Shop, Honam; Kwai Hing Shop, Sin Cheong, Honam.  
Swatow.—Sui Cheong Hong; Woh Shun Loong Hong.  
Amoy.—Chun Cheong Hong, Mook Kek Street.  
Fuchow.—Mr. Yu Ching Cheong, Fuchow Arsenal; Mr. Lun Kwok Ching, Martime Customs.  
Shanghai.—Mr. Ng Ching Shun, Maritime Customs; Mr. Ho Yue Chuen, Maritime Customs; Mr. Chun Sing Hol, Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co.; Mr. Kwong Honam Pook, Educational Mission School; and Mow Sing Sang Kee shop.  
Ningpo.—Mr. Sung Min Choo, Maritime Customs.  
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Chefoo.—Yee Shun Hong.  
Japan.—Mr. Leong Chun Tong, Municipal Office, Yokohama.  
Saigon.—Wohang Hong.  
Singapore.—Ting Kee Hong; Kwong Fook Sang Hong.  
Penang.—Yow Wing Fong; Argus Office.  
Calcutta.—Mow Sing Company.  
San Francisco.—Kwong Fook Sang Hong.  
The above are some of the Agencies; others will be published, when they are arranged for. Negotiations are in progress with the express carriers who carry the official despatches and Peking Gazette, to circulate the Chinese Mail in the interior of China.  
Hongkong, March 10, 1874.

**HONG LISTS.**  
Circular, large sheet.  
THE AMENDED HONG LIST in English and Chinese, containing the Names of all the most important Companies, Institutions and Mercantile Houses in the Colony.  
Price, 25 cents each; or \$2.50 per dozen.  
At the "China Mail" Office.

**WASHING BOOKS.**  
(In English and Chinese.)  
WASHING BOOKS, for the use of Ladies and Gentlemen, are now ready at this Office—Price \$1 each.  
China Mail Office.

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Hongkong, March 10, 1874.

## EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE DE 1878.

THE CONSUL for FRANCE, as the honour to inform those Persons who wish to take part in the intended Exhibition, that they will find at the Consulate all Information and Particulars they may require.  
For the Consul,  
G. BOULOZE, Vice-Consul.  
Hongkong, December 13, 1876.

## NOW READY.

**BUDDHISM, ITS HISTORY, THEORY AND POPULAR RELIGION, in three Lectures.** By Dr. H. J. EISEL. Second Edition. One Volume. 8vo. Price, \$1.50.  
Orders will be received by Messrs Lane, Crawford & Co.  
Hongkong, July 31, 1873.

## NOTICE.

## THE CHINESE MAIL.

FROM and after the Chinese New Year's day (February 17, 1874) the Chinese Mail will be issued DAILY instead of TRI-WEEKLY as heretofore. No change, however, will be made in the price of subscription, which will remain at \$4 per annum.  
The charges for advertisements are now assimilated to those of the China Mail. The unusual success which has attended the Chinese Mail makes it an admirable medium for advertisement.  
The Conductors guarantee an eventual circulation of one thousand copies. It is already the most influential native journal published, and enjoys considerable prestige at the Ports of China and Japan, and at Singapore, Penang, Calcutta, San Francisco and Australia.  
For terms, &c., address  
MR CHUN AYIN, Manager.  
China Mail Office,  
17th February, 1874.

## MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, PENANG.

THE Municipal Commissioners of Penang are desirous of receiving DESIGNS for a TOWN-HALL. This Building is to be erected on the ground on the east side of the Esplanade situate between the latter and Duke Street, and its cost is not to exceed \$80,000.  
The Commissioners offer a PREMIUM of \$400 for the best and most suitable Design with Specifications; and competitors have the option of forwarding Tenders for carrying out the work.  
The Designs, accompanied with all documents, are to be sent to the Municipal Office, Penang, on or before the 1st of March next.  
For further information apply to the Secretary to the Municipal Commissioners at Penang.  
D. C. PRESGRAVE,  
Municipal Secretary.  
Penang,  
Municipal Office,  
The 21st September, 1876.

**THE HONGKONG CHINESE MAIL.**  
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